

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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71

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 DRC-01 /101 W

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R 111225Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6845

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY AFCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USUN NEW YORK 273

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 1897

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TO, IN, KS, UN

SUBJ: KOREA IN 28TH UNGA: OPPOSITION RES

REF: STATE 195335; (B) LOME 1832; (C) LOME 1851

1. PRESIDENT EYADEMA RECEIVED ME MORNING 11 OCTOBER AT MY REQUEST. DRAWING ON REF A, PROMPT DESPATCH OF WHICH I GREATLY APPRECIATED, AND ALL PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS, I GAVE HIM CONCISE BUT COMPLETE SUMMARY OF TWO COMPETING DRAFT RESES ON KOREA AND OF US POSITION. I EXPRESSED MY GREAT CHAGRIN THAT TOGO, WHICH HAD ONLY SHORT TIME AGO COSPONSORED FRIENDLY RESOLUTIONS ON KOREA, NOW APPEARED IN UNUSUAL COMPANY AS CO-SPONSOR OF UNFRIENDLY DRAFT RES.

2. EYADEMA REPLIED THAT TOGOLESE CO-SPONSORSHIP OF UNFRIENDLY RES WAS AN "ERROR." IT HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY. TOGO, HE SAID HAD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BOTH KOREAS AND COULD NOT TAKE SIDES IN QUESTION CON-
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CERNING THEM.

3. I SAID MATTER WAS NOT SIMPLY QUESTION OF TWO KOREAS, OR OF TOGO'S RELATIONS WITH THEM. UNFRIENDLY DRAFT RES DIRECTLY AFFECTED US, SINCE TROOPS WHOSE WITHDRAWAL WAS CALLED FOR WERE CLEARLY AMERICAN, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE STATIONED IN KOREA UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH WISHES OF ROK. WHILE I APPRECIATED ASSURANCES OF PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER THAT TOGOLESE CO-SPONSORSHIP WAS AN "ERROR," OR AS HUNLEDE PUT IT, UNAUTHORIZED, FACT REMAINED THAT FOR ALL IN UN THE DRAFT RES REPRESENTED OFFICIAL TOGOLESE POSITION. TOGOLESE ABSTENTION IN VOTING WOULD COME FAR TOO LATE TO UNDO DAMAGE. ONLY WAY TOGO'S POSITION COULD BE MADE CLEAR WOULD BE WITHDRAWAL OF TOGOLESE SPONSORSHIP. THERE WERE AMPLE PRECEDENTS FOR THIS.

4. UNLIKE HUNLEDE, PRESIDENT DID NOT REJECT THIS SOLUTION OUTRIGHT BUT APPEARED TO BE WILLING TO CONSIDER IT. WITHOUT PROMISING ANYTHING, OR EVEN GIVING A CLEAR INDICATION OF WHAT HE MIGHT DECIDE, HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD TELEPHONE HUNLEDE IN NEW YORK TODAY.

5. COMMENT: I HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT WAS NOT SINCERE, OR AT LEAST THAT, ERROR OR NOT, HE DOES NOT NOW REGRET TOTOGLESE CO-SPONSORSHIP OF UNFRIENDLY RES. HOWEVER, I HAVE BEEN THIS ROUTE BEFORE. DURING LONG STRUGGLE OVER CHIREP IN 1972, PRESIDENT REPEATEDLY INDICATED THAT HE HAD BEEN CONVINCED BY ROC AMBASSADOR CHANG, IF NOT BY ME, OF CORRECTNESS OF OUR POSITION. (WE EVEN HAD CONFIRMATION FROM RELIABLE LOCAL SOURCES THAT HE ISSUED THE DESIRED INSTRUCTIONS AT ONE POINT.) EACH TIME, HOWEVER, HUNLEDE INTERVENED AND PRESIDENT SLIPPED BACK. I HAVE NO CONFIDENCE, THEREFORE, THAT, EVEN IF HE DOES TAKE UP WITH HUNLEDE POSSIBILITY OF WITHDRAWING SPONSORSHIP (AND I REPEAT HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY PROMISE TO DO THIS), HUNLEDE WILL NOT EASILY PERSUADE HIM THAT THIS COURSE WOULD MAKE TOGO LOOK FOOLISH IN EYES OF OTHER UN MEMBERS. PROBABLY THE BEST WE CAN HOPE, AND THIS IS BY NO MEANS CERTAIN DESPITE HUNLEDE'S AND PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCES, IS THAT TOGO WILL ABSTAIN OR ABSENT ITSELF DURING VOTING.
DICKINSON

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